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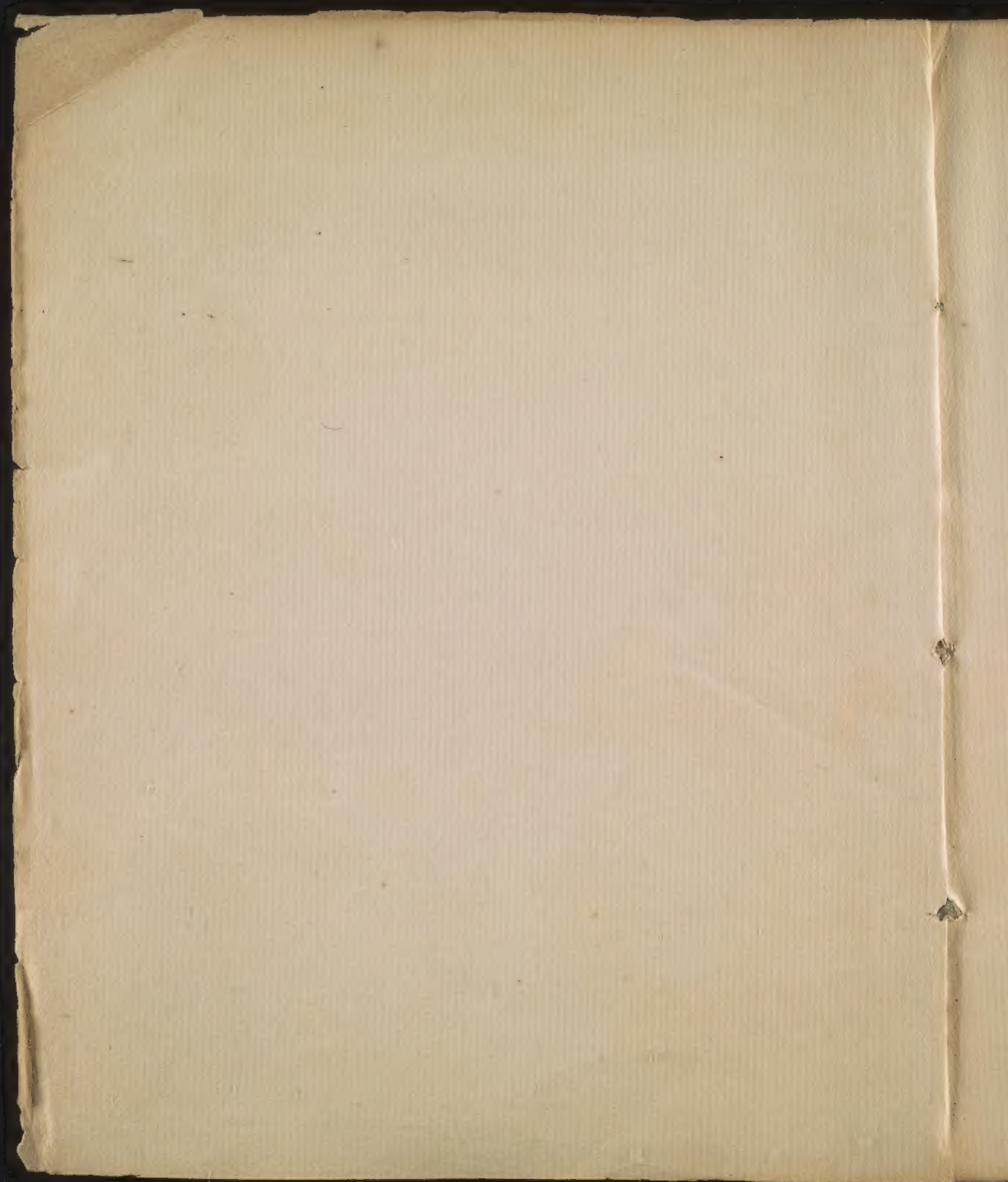
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on Convulsions  
and  
on the Epilepsy











✓ are general and local, and like Palsy  
are derived from the brain, the spinal  
marrow, and from affections of the  
muscles remote from them both. They  
depend upon a less force of the same causes  
which produce palsy. Like palsy they may  
be divided into cephalic - ~~vertebral~~ <sup>spinal</sup> external  
and internal <sup>spinal</sup> and muscular - the last is  
when ~~it~~ <sup>they</sup> appears in convulsions in the <sup>eyes</sup> eyelids  
~~lips - hands~~, mouth, tongue - and lower jaw,  
and upper and lower extremities. They have  
been divided into clonic & tonic. The  
former are alternated with relaxation,  
the latter are constant. They are sometimes  
both clonic and tonic as in the Tetanus.  
I shall make a few remarks upon each  
of them. ~~As~~ and first let us attend to ~~such~~  
<sup>general</sup> those convulsions ~~as are~~ <sup>which</sup> I have called cephalic, &  
which are derived from the brain.



1  
upon Convulsions & Epilepsy.

Convulsions V

6, -  
~~I have classed Convulsions with Epilepsy~~  
~~because I believe them to be as much~~  
~~the same disease as an ephemeral fever~~  
~~and a protracted intermittent ~~fever~~~~

They ~~for ever~~ are transient, and  
often appear but once in the course of  
a life. This is more generally the case  
when they ~~appear~~ are the symptoms of  
a primary fever as small pox - measles  
the fever from dentition & whooping cough.  
They ~~yield to~~ <sup>yield to</sup> now and then occur  
towards the close of pregnancy, and  
when relieved by copious <sup>salmon</sup> ~~urine~~ <sup>urine</sup> ~~urine~~  
occur again in any subsequent period of  
life. - They yield to the common remedies  
of the diseases of which they are symptoms,



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particulars to US - cold air - & cold water  
 when the system is excited, and after it  
 is reduced, to ~~specify~~ the warm Bath,  
 applied generally, or partially, Lavandum  
 and stimulating applications to the limbs,  
 neck and head. —

When these Convulsions lose their  
 transient or ephemeral Character, and  
 recur daily, weekly, monthly, or less or  
 more frequently, they require the name  
 of Epilepsy.

Its ~~has~~ name imports one of its  
 symptoms - that is falling down - hence  
 it has been called "the falling sickness". It  
 has likewise been called "morbus comi-  
 ticus" from its occurring sometimes in  
 public companies. In superstitious Ages  
 it had a third name that is "morbus  
 sacer" from its being supposed ~~the~~ persons



When a young man

When reading the tragedy of Richard the 3<sup>d</sup>  
I <sup>was much</sup> ~~have often~~ been struck with ~~the ex-~~ <sup>his</sup>  
-clamation ~~of the~~ ~~to~~ ~~royal~~ ~~monarch~~  
when thrown from his horse in battle,  
and thereby placed in danger of falling  
into the hands of his enemies - "a  
horse - a horse - a king down for a  
horse" cried the unfortunate monarch.  
In like manner - gent: ~~safe~~ in ente-  
-ring upon the subject of Epilepsy, I feel  
as if I had fallen from my Chair, and  
in <sup>my</sup> a prostrate situation, I feel disposed to  
cry out,

those  
who



were afflicted with it not by ordinary, natural causes, but by such as were supernatural. —

In entering upon the consideration of this disease, I feel disposed to cry out like King Richard <sup>who</sup> when dismounted in battle <sup>cried out,</sup> "a horse - a horse - a kingdom for a horse!" - In like manner I feel disposed to begin my lecture upon Epilepsy by saying "a remedy! - a remedy! - a kingdom for a remedy for <sup>Epilepsy!</sup>!" After all that I have collected from reading, ~~and~~ observation and reflection upon it I am <sup>thus publicly</sup> to acknowledge I ~~cannot~~ <sup>am unable to</sup> cure it, and of course I cannot teach you how to cure it. But I will not abandon it as incurable disease. I believe it is



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induced by preternatural possibility  
or inevitability, or by both constituting  
what is called mobility, or a high  
degree of excitability. It may be considered  
as a higher grade of that form of Hysteria  
which occurs in violent paroxysms.  
Its predisposing cause is the same. It  
differs from it in this predisposition  
being more ~~partial~~ general, that is in  
affecting the blood vessels and the  
brain. —

those  
who



not so, and that a cure exists in the  
 course of time, ~~and~~ for it as certainly  
 as I know ~~the~~ Bark to be the remedy  
 for intermitting ~~fevers~~

I shall deliver to you the most  
 important facts I have been able to  
 collect upon the subject of this disease,  
 and accompany them with some  
<sup>principles</sup> ~~opinions~~ that I hope will lead you  
 to treat it with more success than I  
 have done.

I shall begin by remarking that  
 its <sup>indisposing</sup> ~~poisonous~~ cause is ~~noted as~~ debility  
 This debility instead of being confined as in  
 fever, to the blood vessels, extends to the  
 brain  
 nerves and muscles, ~~but not to the~~  
~~tissues~~ - hence the facility with which  
 they ~~then~~ ~~from~~ are excited into morbid



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or convulsive Actions, ~~and~~ <sup>The brain</sup> ~~being~~ the  
 partakes of this debility in a less de-  
 -gree than the muscles & nerves, and  
 hence its prompt reaction. It is this  
 reaction which ~~constitutes~~ induces the  
 convulsions. When this reaction does  
 not take place, ~~and~~ the nerves ~~do~~  
~~nevertheless~~ are insensible & the muscles  
 without motion. This state of the  
 brain, nerves & muscles constitutes Apo-  
 -plexy. -

It affects persons of all ages from  
 Childhood to the 75<sup>th</sup> year of life. ~~It~~  
 generally begins in infancy or childhood.  
 The intervals between the fits are from  
 4 hours to six months. They occur often  
 in the night than at any other time,



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and from an obvious reason, viz the  
 greater pressure of the brain in sleep, and  
 in a recumbent posture than in the  
 waking state, or in an erect posture of the  
 body. They often continue with but  
 slight changes until about the 50<sup>th</sup>  
 of life, at which time they terminate in death  
 acute or chronic. But they  
 by apoplexy, or in complete fatuity. Some  
 times they wear away at that period of  
 and leave the system in an unimpaired state.  
 life & I have heard of two instances in which  
 this was the case. The persons lived after-  
 wards to be above 80 years of age. One of  
 them was an eminent mathematician.  
 The fits often impair<sup>ed</sup> the faculties of  
 the mind, particularly the memory. ~~He~~  
~~had~~ <sup>had</sup> a boy in the month of  
 Feb. 1811 ~~who~~ in  
 our hospital of 12 years of age of the  
 name of Inglefield in whom the moral



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Faintly are so much affected as to dis-  
 pose him to every kind of mischief  
 and wickedness of which he is capable.  
~~broken~~ There is a young woman in  
 the hospital in whom the disease has  
 produced a similar perversion of the moral  
 faculties. But there are cases upon record  
 in whom Epilepsy has increased the  
 strength of all the intellectual faculties.  
 Caesar and Mohammed were both ~~afflicted~~  
 afflicted with Epilepsy. Bonaparte la-  
 bours under a form of it. <sup>Humanity</sup> ~~The~~ ~~superior~~  
~~itself~~ has reason to deplore the un-  
 common elevation of the intellects of  
 all ~~these~~ of those disturbers of the peace &  
 happiness of the world. Even the moral  
 faculties have been exalted by this



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of this I shall mention a striking instance presently.  
Disease. Of this, the Rev Mr Wallis  
 lately of Connecticut exhibited a remark-  
-able proof in the greater sublimity  
and eloquence of his prayers & sermons  
just before an attack of Epilepsy than  
at any other time.

I said formerly that this disease  
alternated with Apoplexy, especially in  
Dunkards. It is likewise sometimes  
combined with it. I have seen several  
instances in our hospital in which  
it has alternated with madness.

The fits of Epilepsy



✓ ~~Resolutions~~ I have lately met with a  
source of injury to the brain from  
what is called Bucking, that is two men  
contending like bucks <sup>with each leg with</sup> ~~who knock~~  
their heads only. I have lost a patient  
with epilepsy from this cause.

is a great number of persons having  
breathid. Hence it often occurs in crowded  
rooms <sup>or</sup> ~~and~~ in large companies, and

Thos  
who







W of Epilepsy you see are the same Apoplexy and no wonder they induce the same disease.

V In 1804 I was consulted by a Gentleman from Maryland who was one of three brothers who had been affected with it, and in the Spring of 1808 I was called to visit a Portuguese merchant, who informed me that five of his brothers & sisters were afflicted with it. In neither of these cases had the disease existed in the parents of those young persons.

7 It has been called a simulated disease, that is it has been dissembled, and from having been often so, it becomes at last habitual, & returns without the concurrence of the Will.



3 Wounds. Drinking <sup>10</sup> cold water. <sup>in the</sup> ~~Shall~~ <sup>County</sup> hospital  
~~The mental disease~~ <sup>in the</sup> ~~the mental~~

- Causes. 1 Great excesses of the understanding  
 2 Great excesses of the passions, ~~also~~ <sup>also</sup>  
 sudden emotions. These are chiefly <sup>pass</sup> ~~pass~~  
 Anger & ~~terror~~ <sup>jealousy</sup> ~~jealousy~~ <sup>jealousy</sup> ~~jealousy~~ <sup>jealousy</sup>  
 in the hospital at Vienna at one time  
 6 were affected ~~with~~ <sup>from</sup> ~~terror~~ <sup>terror</sup>. ~~The~~  
 Topliff. Son. <sup>8 miss paper 1811</sup> ~~3 mental sympathies~~  
~~One hospital~~ ~~It is a congenital~~  
~~to a filial disease~~ ~~It was produced from~~  
 this cause in a school at Harlem, & in the  
 Pennsylvania hospital. Six or seven patients  
 fell down with epilepsy in the long ward in  
 our hospital upon seeing a man suddenly  
 affected with it. Perhaps honor assisted this  
 sympathy in producing the disease. The causes V  
 4 It is a congenital disease. Some children  
 are born with it.  
 5 It is hereditary. 6 It is a filial disease. V







the fits of Epilepsy when once formed  
are removed ~~by far~~ <sup>by</sup> feeble  
existing causes. The noise of a distant  
bell, and of a horse; put excited it in two  
cases mentioned by Dr Cullen. It is often  
excited by obvious Associations of Ideas.  
A Soldier who had deserted, and who was  
detected while drinking in a tavern fell  
down in a fit of Epilepsy. This fit re-  
turned a long time afterwards every  
time he lifted a mug to his lips. A  
<sup>pregnant</sup> Lady who stood so long under the hands  
of a man who <sup>as he</sup> was very much debilitated  
suffered with Epilepsy. ~~Thence~~ The  
disease returned every time she saw  
her gown, or the man who made  
until after her delivery. Savage







12  
mentions a case of a woman who fell  
down at a Church door with Epilepsy.  
Her disease returned every time she  
attempted to enter that door afterwards.  
<sup>Catholic</sup> A ~~pious~~ priest ~~was~~ <sup>suspended the fate of this</sup> a ~~pious~~ man in  
Ireland whose ~~father~~ <sup>in a</sup> ~~father~~ <sup>protestant</sup> man in Ireland by obtaining  
a promise from him that he would  
never again enter a protestant Church.  
At the end of 7 years he violated his  
promise and was instantly affected <sup>these</sup>  
by a return of his disease. But ~~the~~  
Associations of ideas I believe often  
take place in Dreams, and this is  
perhaps another reason why the fits  
~~often~~ occur often in the sleeping than  
in the waking state. There are I said



V Whether corporeal or mental, act  
with Certainty, in proportion as they  
act suddenly.

+ convulsions in the internal parts of  
the body as well as the external, par-  
-ticularly in the pharynx, Oesophagus  
Stomach, bowels, bladder, & seminal  
Vesicles and to such a degree in the last  
as to bring on an emission of semen.

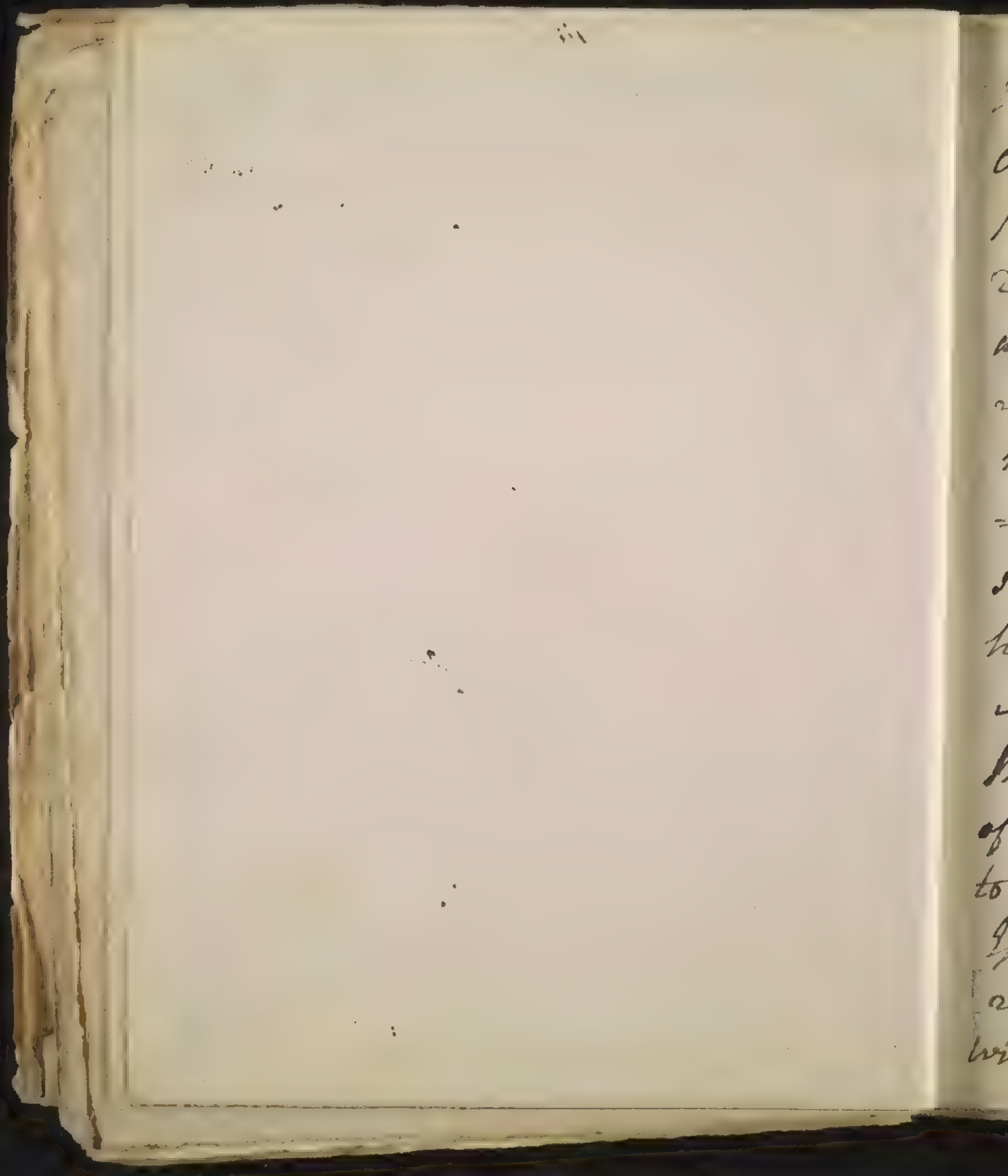


formerly associations of motions in the  
~~body~~ <sup>body</sup>, as well ~~as~~ of ideas in the  
 mind. These motions are associated by  
 habit, and take place without, not  
 only consciousness, but even without  
 sensation. They are I believe <sup>likewise</sup> frequent  
 cause of the occurrence of paroxysms  
 of Epilepsy. All these causes of Epilepsy

There are ~~of~~ different grades in the  
~~paroxysms~~ <sup>of this disease</sup>.

1 They <sup>convulsive</sup> are sometimes so violent according  
 to ~~Lennox~~ as to produce ~~an effusion of~~ <sup>general & so</sup>  
~~convulsions~~ <sup>and according to Dr</sup>  
 Sherrin, to produce an effusion of blood from  
 the extremities of the arteries upon the  
 skin. The immense force of the disease  
 may easily be conceived of from its  
 destroying the pains of Childbearing. Of







this I have known an instance in this city in a lady who was delivered during a paroxysm of this disease. The mind in this form of Epilepsy is completely prostrated.

2 It appears with Convulsions so moderate as not completely to prostrate the body nor alienate the mind. It appeared in this form in the celebrated Baron Sveden-berg. When we read he was able to support himself upon his knees during his paroxysms. His visions took place in this ~~state~~ ~~intermediate~~ state of his ~~state~~ mind. The case I formerly read to you of a man in Connecticut who was said to have two souls, was a mild grade of Epilepsy, in which thought was nearly regular, and many actions performed with order, tho' forgotten afterwards.



V 3 There is a grade of Epilepsy in  
which is accompanied with ~~the~~ con-  
-vulsions of <sup>a part or of</sup> all the limbs, ~~but~~  
without impairing in the smallest  
degree the senses or the mind. <sup>Does</sup> not  
St. Vitus' Dance belong to this grade of Epilepsy?

A disease of this kind which appeared  
in Holland in the year 1373. It was  
called "melancholia saltans". The  
girls in this country which lately  
prevailed in the Western States was  
a form of the same disease.



✓ There is a grade of Epilepsy in which the mind is unimpaired which discovers itself by suddenly jumping, dancing, or running with great Velocity round a room. It is said the disease appears in the last way that I have mentioned in the Emperor of France. It is accompanied in these cases with profuse sweats and succeeded by great fatigue. ~~That~~ Dr Crichton describes a

It appears in a form so feeble as only to induce faintness, with a short suspension of speech and walking. It seldom continues <sup>longer</sup> ~~more~~ than two or three minutes. I have seen an instance of it in a female servant in my family.

It appears with convulsions, or what are

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are called Contortions in the muscles of  
the face, <sup>only</sup> without the least interruptions  
of the <sup>natural</sup> exercises of the mind.

There is a grade of this disease related  
in the German Epithimerides in which  
the patient <sup>involuntarily</sup> revealed all that he did, said  
or thought the day before, without being  
attended with any bodily disease. I  
have called this a Convulsion in the  
will in my introductory lecture upon  
the study of medical Jurisprudence.

Dispositions exhibit <sup>same</sup> ~~very~~ the <sup>same</sup> appa-  
-rances in the brain of persons who die of  
Epilepsy as they do of Apoplexy, and for an  
obvious reason - They are ~~in doubt~~ <sup>for</sup> exactly  
the ~~most part~~ <sup>same</sup> disease, and ought  
to produce the same effects, for the morbid  
appearances in the brain with a few excep-  
-tions

✓ of Water in the Medulla Spinalis After  
Death from Epilepsy. Probably this was in  
~~the~~ after those cases of Epilepsy that left  
the faculties of the mind in an uncon-  
scious state. —



are I believe the effects, and not the  
 cause of ~~the~~ either of those forms of  
 disease. Coitus mentions the presence <sup>of</sup>

Dr. Johnson of Exeter tells us that ~~he~~  
 found in the Arteries of a ~~body~~ living ~~lady~~  
 died of Epilepsy <sup>nearly</sup> full of blood, and very little  
 in the Veins. Take notice of this fact, &  
 connect it with the fact mentioned by Dr  
 about of a person sweating blood in the  
 first or highest grade of Epilepsy. They  
 strongly mark a deep seated disease in the  
 blood vessels. — ~~to take~~

Before we proceed ~~to~~ to mention the  
 Remedies for this disease, let us inquire into  
 the operations of nature in it. Was it ever  
 cured by her, or by accidents, or by  
 time? I answer it has by them all  
 three. It will be useful to mention

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these cures, as they serve to suggest principles to us that may lead to the choice of <sup>the</sup> proper medicines that are proper to imitate them. It has been cured

1 By puberty. Of <sup>two</sup> this I have known <sup>one</sup> instance, in a young lady of the State of Maryland, & one in a citizen of Philad<sup>a</sup> ~~by the use of it as in Bismarck~~  
 2 By pregnancy and Childbearing. It was cured by this natural remedy in two of the sisters of the young gentleman from Portugal ~~whom~~ whom I visited in the year 1808. —

3 By a Change of Climate & residence.  
 4 By the hardships of a ~~thick~~ camp life.  
 — It was thus cured in Julius Caesar.  
 5 By <sup>long</sup> journey. ~~It was thus~~ It was cured in a lady of this city by a journey to the <sup>the</sup> ~~the~~ matches. In this case a Change of

7 v ~~by~~ a quarter per. This is taken notice  
of by Hippocrates.



climate cooperated with ~~the~~ the labor  
the exercise of travelling. — into the fire:  
6 By a burn in consequence of the patients falling on  
8 By Age. I have heard of several instances  
of its going off between the 50<sup>th</sup> & 60<sup>th</sup> years  
of life. — It ceased at 21 in 13 men.

Let us attend to the probable states of  
the system in ~~cases~~<sup>all</sup> of the cases of cures  
that have been mentioned. Perhaps <sup>medicine</sup>  
may imitate them and thus perform  
similar cures. —

Similar Cures. —  
The Remedies for Epilepsy divide them-  
selves into three heads.

such as are proper in its forming plate.

If such as are proper in the paroxysm.  
the intervals of

III Such as are proper in <sup>the intervals of</sup> its paroxysms.

† The premonitory symptoms of this disease are a bitter taste in the mouth, just before the two or three days before a

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fits, an enlargement of the pupils, false,  
 or obscure vision, a <sup>or slow</sup> tense pulse, tremors,  
 of the head and limbs, pain in the forefinger,  
 head ach, pain in the right eye, with an  
 inflammation of the tunica adnata - a peculiar  
 odor in the breath, <sup>difficulty of swallowing,</sup> costiveness, a  
 redness in the face, pains in the feet, a sudden  
 sense of horror, such as is induced by the near  
 approach of death, pimples upon the tongue,  
 a trembling of the <sup>tender</sup> upper lip, the Aura Spi-  
 -ritica, <sup>resembling a creeping insect, or a fluid.</sup> or a ~~creeping~~ sensation arising  
 from the extremities of the hands & feet &  
 ascending towards the head, <sup>a swelling of the parietal veins on the forehead,</sup> singing, laughing,  
 dancing & running, and lastly preternatural  
 elevation of all the faculties of the mind. In  
 this way it always appeared in the <sup>late</sup> Rev. Mr.  
 Wales Professor of Divinity in the College of  
 New Haven in Connecticut.

Most of these premonitory symptoms  
 have occurred in my patients, or have

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11 been derived from sources upon which you may place the fullest reliance. ~~They~~ ~~They~~ ~~also occur in~~ But a few of the symptoms ever occur in any one patient, but all of them have occurred in different patients.

The Remedies in this forming state of a paroxysm of Epilepsy should be,

- 1 Bleeding when the pulse is tense, or when great fulness appears in the bloodvessels of the brain.
- 2 an emetic. This is indicated when there is a bitter taste in the mouth.
- 3 Abstinence from animal food, and the sparing use of vegetables.
- 4 a gentle purge. It was often prevented in a patient of mine in whom it was preceded by a peculiar odor in the breath. The purge she took was Sulphur.
- 5 a Dose of Laudanum or Opium.

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- 6 a Cup of the juice of Rue.
- 7 a table spoonful of Salt ~~for~~ supposed to dissolve in the mouth.
- 8 Keeping the mouth & teeth apart by a piece of wood placed between them.
- 9 The smell of Sulphur.
- 10 Tobacco applied to the pit of the stomach.
- 11 Rubbing the hand upon the temples, or forehead, and throwing the head backwards against a wall.
- 12 Shaking the head rapidly.
- 13 Dashing a bucket of water over the head & body.
- 13 Tying ligatures around the extremities, thus preventing the rising of the Aura <sup>thru</sup> Epileptic to the head, or cutting thro' the nerve <sup>which it is sometimes divided, & passes to the head.</sup> from the head.
- 14 Rising suddenly out of bed when it is felt coming on in the night.
- 15 Running.
- 16 Exitting fear. In this manner ~~etc~~

✓ of this remedy was suggested to the Dr.  
by its success in the hands of Dr Boeshave  
in curing this the Epilepsy that appeared  
in the School at Haslem.



a fit was suspended by Dr Cullen for three weeks in the suppurating of skin<sup>r</sup>. The fear was induced by directing a piece of iron to be heated red hot, and to mark the patient in the forehead with it, as soon as the fit made its appearance. The Use<sup>V</sup> of Improving wakefulness upon the patient for one or two nights. In sleep & in bed when the body is a recumbent posture, the muscles become relaxed, that is they part with their excitement, but this excitement is not lost; — it is translated to the brain ~~blood vessels~~ in epilepsy, as it is to the lungs in sleep and in a recumbent posture of the body in asthma, from whence it is distributed irregularly & convulsively thro' every part of the body. The probability of this remedy being useful is supported by

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the good effects of rising suddenly out of bed and running, and thereby throwing the excitement into the muscles, and thus preventing a paroxysm of Epilepsy. —

here it may be said I could furnish you with facts in favor of the efficacy of all the remedies I have mentioned in preventing paroxysms of this disease.

II. The Remedies proper to be administered during the fit are

- 1 Bleeding. This should be used in all cases where the pulse is tense, or when the convulsions are violent. It lessens its violence, and shortens its duration.
- 2 Fresh air, a loose collar, and but few persons near the patient. ~~do~~
- 3 Mustard to the feet. This likewise shortens the duration of the fit. It should not be used until after bleeding, or

III We come to mention the remedies that  
are proper in the intervals of the paroxysms.  
And here I shall first mention the remo-  
-val of all its remote & existing causes -  
and particularly the extirpations of tumors.  
~~into decayed teeth~~ <sup>are</sup> ~~and the~~ When they ~~have~~  
~~been supposed~~ to produce them - also Dr Portal  
says he once ~~has~~ cured a student of me-  
-dicine in whom it came on with a pain in  
the forefinger by dividing the radial nerve.  
Similar cures are related by Willis & Tissot  
where the disease originated in a similar  
way. When the disease arises from drying  
up old sores, or the stoppage of humors, &c.,  
they should be opened & restored. Unfortunately  
from the force of habit, the removal of  
these remote causes does not always cure  
the disease.





✓ allusion to this remedy in the <sup>new</sup> ~~8th~~ <sup>10th</sup> chapter  
of ~~Matthew's~~ testament [Matth: 23. & 24.]  
where our Saviour rebukes his disciples  
for not <sup>a case of this disease.</sup> ~~being~~ curing ~~the friends of a leper~~  
"Doubtless says he) this kind going not of  
out but by prayer & fasting". Whether we  
admit the disease to be <sup>from</sup> natural, <sup>causes</sup> or from  
Demoniacal influence, <sup>(for it is the</sup> ~~its plain~~ <sup>its</sup> ~~indic~~  
~~states that~~ ~~these~~ ~~same~~ from each of  
them) we are led to suppose that  
fasting was one of the remedies in use  
among the Jews to cure it.



which belong to this class are

1 Copious Bloodletting. I have twice cured it by this remedy in Children, worth? we surprised at it when we recollect that a Spontaneous hemorrhage has cured a yellow fever, that is, has so weakened the ~~arteries~~ bloodvessels as to prevent their action in a paroxysm of fever. Dr Brown mentions a cure being performed by bleeding persisted in until it brought on a Dropsy. The blood in the highest ~~deg~~ grades of this disease exhibits the usual marks of great morbid Action in the blood vessels.

2 a reduced diet. Scullen says more cures have been performed by this remedy than by any other. It must have been ~~only~~ <sup>of</sup> cases attended with preternatural fulness of the bloodvessels. — There seems to be an

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3 a milk diet. This acts in two ways, by its conveying no acid stimulus into the system, and by the uniformity of its impression upon every part of the body. Dr Taylor an English physician was cured by it. He took a pint every morning and evening and a quart at noon. The cow from which this milk was taken, I said formerly was fed wholly upon grass & hay. When she ate grain, her milk disagreed with him. The uniformity of the impression depended in this case upon the uniformity of the quantity of milk taken every day. The effects of climate in curing this disease, depends chiefly upon its uniformity, for in a disease in which the whole





System is exquisitely mobile, ~~the feeblest~~  
 impressions often produce great effects.  
 Of the efficacy of a low and <sup>in preventing disease</sup> mild diet, the  
 Bramins in India furnish remarkable  
 proofs. They escape the fevers which desolate  
 European garisons & Settlements by living  
 wholly upon Rice and simple water.

4. A salivation. This revolutionary remedy was  
 first used by Dr Hugh Smith of London. It  
 acts 1 by excluding from the mouth, 2 by the  
 Abstinence which a fore mouth imposes upon  
 the appetite, & 3 by the vicarious <sup>excited</sup> action in  
 the mouth & throat instead of the brain. To  
 be effectual, the salivation should be kept up  
 six weeks. I have employed it with success,  
 in ~~three~~ <sup>in</sup> two, or perhaps three cases, but it has  
 failed in my hands in many more cases,  
 and in still more it has failed of producing

15

*[Faint handwritten text, likely bleed-through from the reverse side]*



5 any action upon the salivary glands. Bleeding should always precede our attempts to excite this mercurial disease. —

4 Cold applications to the head. Ice should be preferred when attainable for this purpose. It should be confined <sup>to the head</sup> by means of a bladder.

5 Sleeping in a sitting or inclined posture in order to prevent an undue determination of blood to the brain. I have employed this, & the preceding remedy with great advantage in the case of a gentleman in Baltimore.

After the reduction of the system, or in cases in which this is not necessary the Remedy should be

II Tonics. These should be of so powerful a nature as to overcome the predisposing debility and inactivity or excitability of the system. This use is suggested by the

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occasional crises that have been performed by  
 nature by puberty, pregnancy, by the hardships  
 of a Camp life, by a long journey, and by old  
 age, all which impart tone or strength to  
 the system, ~~by~~ ~~transmission~~ or dissipate its excitabi-  
 -lity so as to reduce it to a stricture state.

V Margagnoli gave it with great reverence  
- to a priest whose case he has de-  
- scribed in Vol. I p 216.



The tonic remedies ~~the~~ employed in this  
 disease ~~should~~ <sup>have</sup> been derived first from  
<sup>I shall briefly mention them. ~~below~~</sup>  
 1 Vegetables. <sup>"</sup> ~~Miscellaneous~~ ~~& ~~valerian~~~~ Bark, ~~Valerian~~  
<sup>these have</sup>  
 seldom done much service. Valerian  
 has done good I believe only in the feeble  
 degrees of this disease, - for it is a febrile ~~disorder~~  
 It acts chiefly upon the nervous system.  
 Opium does good, but it is only when  
 it induces a new action in the brain.  
 - Dr Darwin cured convulsions by inducing  
 delirium by means of this medicine,  
 - and gives <sup>as</sup> a reason for it, that it is  
 better safer to excite convulsion in the ~~brain~~  
 than to suffer it to exist in the muscles.  
 Stramonium has cured two cases  
~~also~~ in the hands of Dr Brecher, and  
 one - prescribed by Dr Barton in our

✓ I have heard of the following composition of which Stramonium is the principal ingredient having done service in this disease. *Scm Stram Zij Opri Zij Lactos Zss Camph: Zss Spirit Thi - Tron* 25 to 100 to be given 3 times a day. Opium has been useful in this disease taken at bedtime so as to induce that easy and natural sleep which prevents agitation ~~and~~ on the one hand & snoring on the other.



hospital. Of 14 ~~patients~~ epileptic  
 patients in the Stockholm royal Infirmary  
 8 were cured, and five were relieved <sup>by it.</sup>  
 To do good - it should be given until it  
 induces giddiness - ~~and then~~ Perhaps it  
 would do more service - were it given  
 till it induced stupor - or deep sleep.

- ~~Don't be afraid~~ Recollect the lesson  
 the Drushards have taught us, not  
 to be too tender of the brain in exciting  
 convulsive actions. V

The next class of tonics should be  
 a mineral. Chalybeates have suspens-  
 ed the disease. Zinc from 2 to 36  
 grains in a Day has cured it, and  
 where it has not - it has lessened the  
 frequency of the fits. ~~but~~ The





Sulphate of Lime in doses from 1 to  
 4 grains three times a day has done  
 service. The Sulphate of Copper, &  
 Argemone ~~argemone~~ in doses from  
 $\frac{1}{4}$  to 2 grains 3 times a day have  
 performed several cures. The magistery  
 of Bismuth & Arsenic have it is said  
 been useful. There are ~~many~~ several  
 well attested accounts of cures being per-  
 -formed by the Nitrate of Silver in doses  
 from  $\frac{1}{4}$  of a gr. to a grain, 3 times a day.  
 Its use was suggested by a cure being  
 which took place in an epileptic pati-  
 -ent that swallowed a piece of Silver in a  
 fit. It lay 20 months in his stomach,  
 and was pushed up somewhat corroded  
 and of a black color. Phosphorus  
 has been given in this disease, but I

Epilepsy in Children  
V The ~~force~~ of head is not singular in  
yielding to medicine, which have no  
effect upon the same disease in Adults.  
we see the same thing in pulmonary  
Consumption, and in forms of all kinds.  
It must be ascribed to the difference  
in disposition and organization in  
those two stages of life.



cannot say with what success. I have  
~~expressed~~ cured four or five persons  
 under 13 years of age by the use of lead,  
 in doses from 1 to 2 grains 3 times  
 a day. <sup>I was induced to</sup> ~~The use of~~ this medicine by hearing  
 of an accidental cure of Epilepsy being  
 effected by a man swallowing a spoon-  
 -ful of white lead instead of loaf sugar.  
 I am sorry to add I have not found  
 it equally successful in adults. It has  
 however cured in one instance, and  
 in another suspended the disease for  
 many months. Its disagreeable effects  
 upon the bowels, may be prevented by  
 combining it with Opium. ✓

To this head belongs the oil of  
Amber. I have lately prescribed this





35 Obvious  
medicine ~~does~~ with <sup>1</sup> success. It has  
suspended the fits in a young Gent.  
in this city about <sup>6</sup> months. Mr. Holmes.  
The dose sh<sup>d</sup> be from 10 to 20 Drops 3  
times a day.

If the amount I have given of the grades  
of this disease be correct, it will account  
for each of those remedies having some-  
times cured, and at other times failed.  
The Vegetable tonics succeeded probably in  
the cases in which a <sup>moderate degree of</sup> ~~feeble~~ ~~excitability~~  
debility only took place in the system, while  
the more powerful metallic tonics  
succeeded in <sup>in cases</sup> ~~in~~ <sup>in which the debility</sup> ~~its~~ ~~higher~~ ~~grades~~ of it which  
and excitability were in a much higher degree.  
~~I have described.~~

3 To the head of tonics belongs a cordial  
diet. It was <sup>one</sup> suspended for six months  
in a celebrated painter in this city. He

✓ There is a fact related in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Vol. of the <sup>Annals</sup> ~~Med.~~  
of med. <sup>ch</sup> forcibly shows the necessity of powerful tonics  
<sup>some cases of</sup> in this disease. 14 Soldiers in Canada were poisoned by  
eating a poisonous plant. One of them had been  
subject to Epilepsy - This man ~~was~~ <sup>was</sup> not affected till 3  
hours after the other 13; & that in a much less  
degree than either of them - what was the cause  
of this? - His system ~~was~~ had been under the  
habitual stimulus of his disease, & therefore felt  
less sensibly the stimulus of the poisonous plant.  
Drunkards for the same reason feel the force of  
Bark & Bitters much less than sober men in  
all these diseases.





V In the use of all these tonic remedies,  
 do not forget ~~the principle~~ that the  
 disease is seated in the <sup>brain</sup> bloodvessels,  
 muscles and nerves, and that it is  
 necessary to reduce them to exactly the  
 same degree of debility, ~~and to~~ in  
 order that the tonics may act with  
 the same force upon each of them, or  
 in other words to plumb those systems.  
 It is I believe from the neglect of this  
 rule, that we so often fail of curing  
 Epilepsy, and in some cases do harm  
 by our remedies. The bloodvessels &c?  
 be the first and principal objects of our  
 attention in our endeavours to induce  
 equality of debility in the systems, for they  
 are in most cases of Epilepsy <sup>highly</sup> <sup>excited</sup> <sup>case</sup> <sup>by</sup> <sup>symp</sup>  
 -usually excited. But Again - I have  
 said the disease is seated in the bloodvessels,



which precede the eruption of the small  
pox, and some other forms of fever, are  
prevented ~~as far~~ from becoming periodical  
and perpetual, only by the fever which  
follows them. Dr De la Roche <sup>informs us</sup> ~~he~~ <sup>says</sup> ~~he~~  
Once saw a fever suspend the fits <sup>of Epilepsy</sup> for  
22 months. In a disease which eludes  
experience, ~~nothing~~ and reasoning,  
even conjectures should be cherished,  
provided they afford the most distant  
prospect of affording a remedy for it.

V What would be the effect of improv-  
ing Wakefulness upon patients in  
this disease <sup>when it discovers its premonitory signs?</sup> ~~shall~~ ~~from~~ ~~eventually~~  
hereafter its good effects in preventing  
fits of Asthma ~~and of Canine~~ both of  
which usually occur in the night?

In Sleep & in bed when the body is in

39  
muscles & nerves. ~~There~~ An important  
Deduction should be made from this fact  
in the Application of ~~our~~ tonic remedies.  
Let them be selected from those Articles  
of the materia medica which act at once  
upon all those three Systems. I have known  
a mixture of Bark & Valerian to cure a  
head ache which had long resisted both  
those Medicines when taken separately.  
They acted probably at the same time  
upon the blood vessels and brain. <sup>would</sup> What <sup>could</sup>  
be the effects of the same medicines <sup>with</sup> ~~the~~  
the addition of Asafetida, or the oil of  
Anker of them? I ~~recommend~~ <sup>barely suggest</sup> the  
hint to you. ~~But~~ ~~I cannot~~ But  
further — What would be the effect of ~~de-~~  
-ring the hours of sleep in this disease, &  
of rendering sleep profound, by Advising sleeping  
constantly upon a matras, or a floor,  
and thus to restrain the excitement of the  
nerves, so as to prevent its passing into the



20  
41 = brain in the <sup>40</sup> manner that has been mentioned? R.

In favor of this remedy recollect the fact of the militia Officers who had kept for several months ~~in the~~ during the winter of 1776 upon <sup>bare floors or</sup> the frozen ground, in New Jersey ~~being~~ <sup>being</sup> tired with convulsions as soon they laid down upon feather beds when they returned to their families.

Long journeys, <sup>in a hard going carriage, over rough roads,</sup> ~~and a~~ and a change of climate have been found useful in this disease. It was suspended 18 months <sup>a</sup> in a gentleman of this city by ~~sending~~ residence in Great Britain & France. The climate resorted to should be an equal <sup>one</sup>. It is a rare disease in the West Indies - probably from the equable temperature of the weather in the Islands. A climate uniformly cold

✓ There <sup>was</sup> is a surgical patient <sup>a Sailor</sup> ~~was~~ in  
our hospital <sup>in the winter of</sup> ~~late~~ 1811. who was seized with  
Epilepsy 6 years <sup>before that time.</sup> ~~ago~~. While at sea <sup>he was</sup> ~~is~~ perfectly  
free from his disease. It returned as soon  
as he returned to the land. ~~Yours friend at~~  
~~sea might say~~ <sup>Sailing</sup> ~~this remedy~~ acts as a tonic  
both upon the body & mind.



41

provides more help in it. see Leffers  
fact: vol. 1 p: 445 Biblioth. de ✓

From the Accidental Cures that  
have been performed by ~~some~~ patients  
falling in the fire & burning themselves,  
~~from~~ physicians have been led to employ  
letans - issues & perpetual blisters in  
this disease. They have been useful  
in many cases. They are generally  
applied to the <sup>neck</sup> ~~arms~~, but from the  
direction of the Aura Epileptica  
being from the feet upwards, I would  
recommend their application to the  
lower extremities. ~~With these~~ <sup>are</sup>  
~~additions to their discharges~~ <sup>are</sup>  
indicated when the disease has arisen  
from repelled humors from any  
part of the body. Perhaps the applic-  
-ation

26.  
27

V I have lately heard of this disease being  
cured by the whole body being ~~covered~~ <sup>covered</sup> with Blisters. — It is said the Emperor  
of France has been relieved by the  
application of 26 blisters to different  
parts of his body. The disease was in-  
duced in him by a repelled eruption.



gentle irritants to the feet & ancles  
might be useful. I am disposed to  
recommend them from having read  
an account of its ~~having~~ being cured  
After continuing 25 years by a fit of  
the gout in the feet.

Dr Waller speaks highly of the actual  
cautery applied along the sagittal and  
coronary sutures - <sup>also</sup> of Glysters of  
an infusion of Tobacco. ✓

I have read an account of its ha-  
ving been cured by the noise of  
church bells which produced a tem-  
porary Deafness.

Dr Luffe mentions two cures being  
performed by means of the itch. Perhaps  
the cure in these cases was effected by the  
<sup>pleasurable</sup> impression made upon the skin by

V But there is another reason why  
I am disposed to think highly of those  
remedies which act upon the skin  
of the external senses, & that is that  
<sup>nearly the only</sup> parts of the body  
are ~~the body~~ <sup>found</sup> parts of the body  
which ~~the~~ the disease ~~has~~ leaves in a  
~~found~~ found state, and of course in a condition  
to divide the force, or to carry off the dis-  
ease. ~~The~~ <sup>probably</sup> It is because the lym-  
phatics are unimpaired in this disease.  
That a salivation has cured it by attrac-  
ting the whole disease to themselves, &  
thus conveying it out of the system.

As the stomach & bowels still  
retain their healthy actions, what would  
be the effect of ~~all~~ strong emetics and



means of scratching. Recollect the law  
 of Epidemics which explains this mode  
 of availing for the Operation of this  
 remedy. <sup>The itch</sup> It is a disease of the Skin it  
 must ~~not~~ be communicated ~~only~~ by contact &  
 not by inoculation. V p. 22 -  
~~however weak - as a disinfectant~~

~~I have said the delirium which pre-  
 -disposes to this disease is seated in the nerves,  
 muscles & blood vessels. What would be  
 the effect of combining medicines which  
 act primarily <sup>specifically</sup> upon each of these  
 systems, and giving them in the ratio  
 to their respective delirium? Bach &  
 Valerian <sup>with</sup> I said formerly cured a headache  
 which resisted each of them in a sepa-  
 -rate state. Perhaps the one acted upon the  
 blood vessels & the other upon the nerves,  
 in both of which the disease <sup>is often</sup> ~~was~~ <sup>seated</sup> -~~

22  
certain mental  
✓ ~~The constant~~ Remedies have some-  
times cured this disease whether by  
accident or design. They are fear,  
terror & horror. I spoke of the effects  
of fear formerly. It will be difficult  
to regulate the terror as a remedy but  
horror may be employed with more  
safety. The drinking water with a toad  
in it, eating a piece of human liver,  
or taking a dose of the rasped powder  
of a human skull has sometimes  
cured it. The commotions excited both  
in the body & mind by these loathsome  
substances I can easily conceive may  
shake even the Epilepsy out of it.  
~~to of changed teeth have cured it~~  
I formerly ~~spoke~~ mentioned the  
good effects of some constant pursuit, or



= purges in order to attract the disease from the ~~debilitated~~ brain - muscles & nerves and thus to convey it out of the system?

V ~~Means of~~ In order to remove any one, or all the remedies that have been mentioned effectual ~~that have been mentioned~~, all such of the exciting remote and existing causes as are ~~within~~ within our power should be removed. The extirpation of a tumor on the palm of the hand ~~has been cured~~ <sup>has been cured</sup> it, also the extraction of decayed teeth ~~the following~~ cases are generally incurable. 1 When the disease comes on before dentition in Infancy. 2 When it arises from lesions <sup>done to</sup> ~~injuries~~ in the brain, or from causes seated in the brain. 3 It is most difficult of cure when

= 0 business to in curing Hysteria. Considering how nearly ~~this~~ ~~dis~~ Epilepsy is related to it, I can not help thinking they would have a salutary ~~not~~ see below - ~~Let~~

V And when it arises from mental stimuli, such as violent emotions & passions of the mind. The reason of this <sup>is</sup> obvious. The <sup>seat of the</sup> mind partakes in this case of the debility <sup>and excitability</sup> of the brain muscles & nerves. -

It is most dangerous when the symptoms <sup>a paroxysm of</sup> of the disease are felt first in the hands - but & hide, - but most so when they are felt first in the head.

# Effort in in ~~leaving~~ its paroxysms or in curing it. Perhaps the Camp life cured Julius Caesar more by the constant exercise of his mind upon great military objects, than by the hardships it imposed upon him. It is to be lamented that most people who are



it is accompanied<sup>45</sup> with vertigo. or  
had acts in its intervals. — 4. It is seldom<sup>✓</sup>

I have thus just: Delivered to you  
all the <sup>important</sup> facts upon the causes - symptoms  
& Remedies for this disease that I am

acquainted with. I have likewise <sup>suggested</sup>  
~~to you~~ <sup>some</sup> ~~new~~ <sup>principles</sup> ~~theory~~ <sup>of it</sup> - by which

you may class and apply those remedies.

I shall briefly recapitulate those  
principles in a few words.

1 Find out the grade of the disease, and  
suit the force of the remedies to it.

2 Permeate all the Systems in which the  
Disease is seated.

3 Combine medicines that act at the  
same time upon all the Systems that  
are affected. —

23  
O afflicted with this disease, give themselves  
up to indolence, and despair, or <sup>employ</sup> ~~consult~~  
themselves only in visiting physicians, or  
searching out for quack medicines to the  
entire neglect of business and labor.  
return to Vph

✓ by Diffusing its predisposing

~~debility~~ Debility into all the  
Symptoms we <sup>prepare</sup> ~~render~~ it more easily  
acted upon by tonic remedies. —

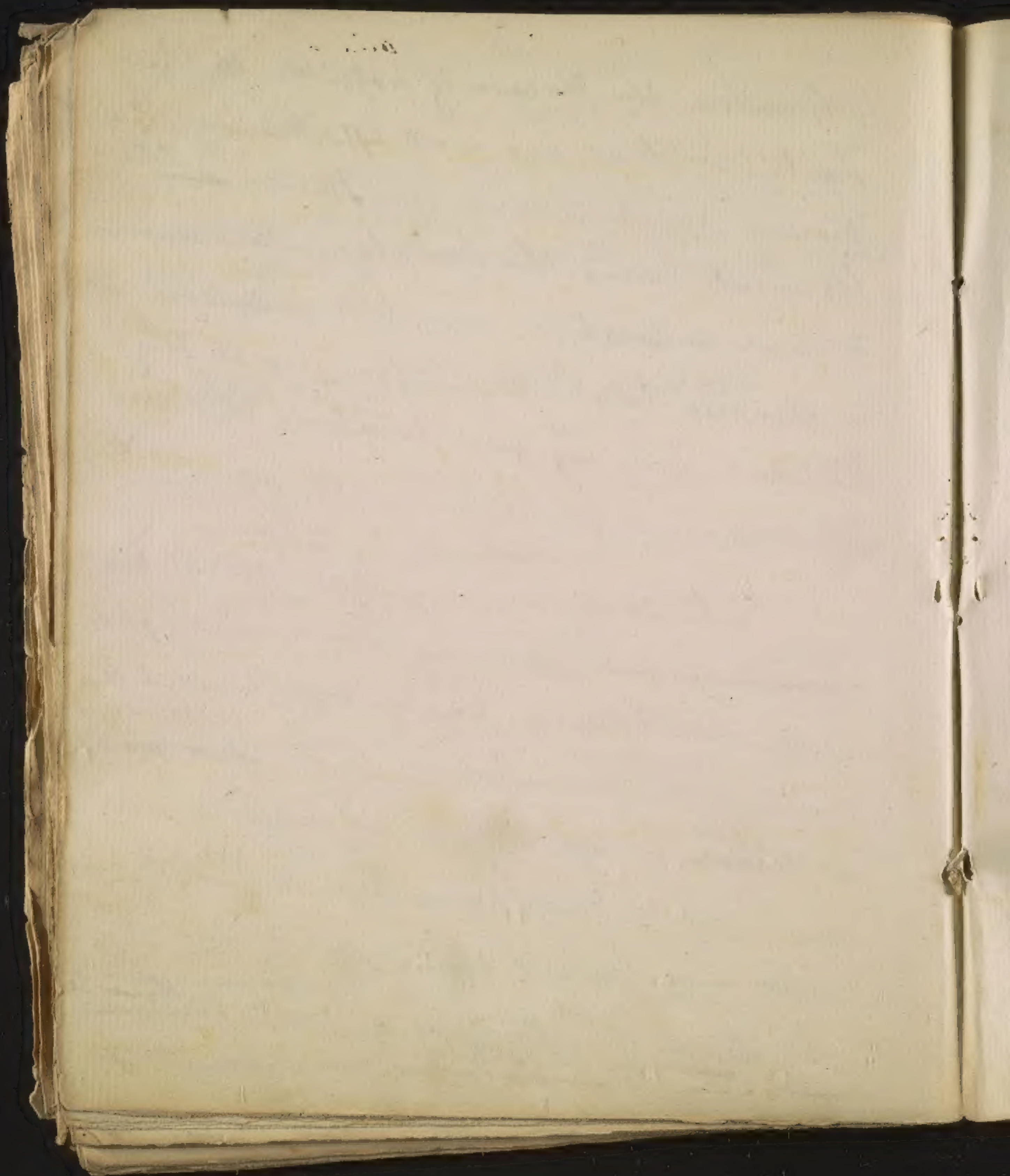
and 5<sup>th</sup> try to excite a disease in the blood  
vessels ~~which~~ the action of which shall  
be more violent, or dissimilar from that  
which occurs in Epilepsy.



4 Translate the disease if possible to those  
Systems that are not affected by the  
Disease - particularly the Skin, ~~and~~ <sup>the</sup>  
Stomach and the bowels. - Remember  
Disease is ~~local~~ or morbid excitement  
is always local. By diffusing it thro'  
the whole body <sup>we</sup> first weaken it, and  
then convert it into health or ~~weak~~ <sup>of life</sup>

The sands in my glass <sup>of</sup> ~~are~~ <sup>are</sup>  
~~becoming~~ <sup>few</sup> ~~winning~~ low. I shall pro-  
-bably not live to ~~test~~ <sup>test</sup> by experiment the  
truth <sup>above</sup> of the principles. - But ~~this~~ <sup>will</sup>  
feeble <sup>late</sup> ~~stage~~ <sup>of</sup> life old age, it will infuse  
fresh vig<sup>r</sup> a temporary youthfull vigor  
into my body & mind, to be told that  
Epilepsy has at last yielded to <sup>the power of</sup> medicine  
~~under the~~ <sup>by the aid of</sup> ~~discretion~~ <sup>of</sup> ~~the~~ <sup>of</sup> ~~any other~~







of those principles, <sup>47</sup> or any others,  
to the journey of medicine.

~~It cannot be~~ it is not, — it  
cannot be an incurable disease,  
speciably to the analogy of all other  
diseases, except in cases of ~~injection~~  
<sup>obstructions</sup> — tumors or  
to the permanent disorganisation  
~~disorganisation~~ of the brain. But let

~~In the mean while, let us by~~  
In the mean while, while we are labour-  
-ing to discover a radical cure for, let us  
continue to administer all the remedies <sup>it</sup> of  
have been mentioned, and by no means  
abandon patients to the quacks or to des-  
-pair. The remedies will save the brain from <sup>it</sup>  
~~disorganisation~~ from being disorganised &  
impaired, and thus prolong life under tolle-  
-rable circumstances, and that you know  
I said formerly was the 2<sup>nd</sup> duty ~~of the physician~~  
of part of the object of medicine, & of the duty of a  
physician.



